11/26/77

Dear Sidney,

In order to do what you ask in your 11/22 I'll have to repeat it so that by a carbon of this Mike can make the necessary identifications.

You cannot locate the "first batch of papers you [I] sent," about "600-700 pages of the Olsen, Artichoke and MKUltra material."

This "first batch" in which you were interested is not my first. It also had two parts, I believe you mean the part Mike did not initially send for me. Assuming this to be true, and unless I hear otherwise from you I will assume you mean the first I personally sent you, we can copy them as soon as Mike lets me know the CIA identification numbers.

There are earlier Olson papers. I do not know if they are worth your trouble. Mike, who has been much closer to the content since then than I, can tell you. But I have them and you are welcome to them. I recall the set I obtained from the Olson family lawyers of what they released of what the CIA gave them; the not identical set the CIA gave to a Committee of Congress, which I obtained from a friend to whom they had been leaked; and an expurgated version of the CIA Inspector General's report, again I think leaked to a friend by a committee. Some of these may have been printed since. Mike would recall.

You also ask about the new material I do not have and the CIA may now be more willing to forget stonewalling me over, "is it possible to get 2,000-3,000 copies at a time so we can evaluate its value?The thought of receiving 18,000 pieces of paper is a bit overwhelming." In general the answer is that I'm quite willing to make the request and the difference in CIA attitude, if any shows when I try, will come from my having filed suit against them for non-compliance and really fraud in demanding a $1,000 search fee for King records after tye AG held it was a "historical" case, for taking $500 which was demanded for the beginning of the search; and for not refunding the $500 when they made no search. All they gave me was some clippings. I have proof that they have other records from the FBI records I've obtained.

I know what you mean by the intimidating nature of so many pages. I've been spending much time with about 50,000 I've just obtained (over a year period) from DJ and FBI on King. I would say two things, however. First I have no basis for selecting which sets of records are most important to a total of the approximate number of pages. I'll ask Mike to make a recommendation, with a carbon copy to you so you can agree or ask questions. Next I take a liberty I hope you will not misunderstand. It is not possible to fully evaluate such records now. One might make a pretty good estimate but it may well require other records or information to give value to what may not appear to have value now. By then those records now available might not be available. (If I have a way of paying for them I'll get them and give them away so they will be available in th4 future.) I therefore believe that professionals in the field might want to consider obtaining all the records and at some future time, when personal uses and needs have past, giving them all to a university which would keep them as a permanent, public archive. While I presume your interests are not identical with those I would have were it possible for me now to spend time on the mind-bending, from my personal experience I would encourage you never to overlook the enormous value a single sheet of paper in housekeeping files can have. In my JFK work this has led me to very much. I do mean from one piece of paper, too, although there were many more of great importance in their housekeeping records.

This week I obtained the 1266=page set of hearings titled "Biomedical and Behavioral Research 1975, the joint Labor and Public Welfare/Administrative Practises hearings.I do not know if I received this late of if it has just appeared. Again Mike will know, I'm sure.

I have heard nothing from you or from my friend Art Kevin on whether you would be seeking the Morgan Hall papers deposited at Penninsula college. If you want to puruse this via someone in the Bay area let me know and I'll see if a friend can do it and if so how much

he would ask for his time. This friend has much to catch up on in his personal affairs because his wife was in terminal illness for about six months. He is retired from a long and fine career as a print-press reporter He is able, honest, sophisticated and has a good understanding of the spookeries of the world. I do not know that he has the time or the interest now but I can inquire if you'd like me to. I believe that if between us Mike and I send him what has appeared he can follow up with the Bay area stringers used by the Post and the college and perhaps others.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

Mike - would you please tell me what I need to know to make the copies Sidney wants?

If it is not too much trouble, I'd appreciate a set of the stories we have on the Midnight Climax/Morgan Hall/Peninsula Junior College business because I think that if he does not have time to look into the availability ofnthe papers the widow deposited or if Sidney does not want to puruse this my friend might be interested in just reading the stories and would have an understanding in case he sees anything in the local papers that we might not know about.Or in case something later breaks. Thanks,

JDW- I think you had no time to be aware when the stories referred to broke. Whether or not you want to do as I ask or whether of not Sidney (Cohen, MD, psychiatrist) wants to go farthur I think reading the stories might interest you.
Mike you probably remember. Sidney has done some experimental work with the LSD type of drug, perhaps for the CIA, but is opposed to the whole concept. Mike thinks well of him. Sidney has reasons into which I have not inquired for not wanting to get these records from the CIA. What he is taking about is paying me to get them, meaning my costs. I'd make copies for myself and for Mike, who can make more sense out of these than I can now. Mike has the belief that something of this sort may have been involved with Oswald.

H.